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There is perhaps one criticism that one might make of the work. It does not delve sufficiently into the sources of the *lex Hieronica*. After having shown the numerous analogies between the *lex Hieronica* and the financial laws of Ptolemy Philadelphus enacted six years after the death of Arsinoë,—that is to say in 265/264 B. C.—the author concludes somewhat prematurely (p. 64): “Le nombre et la fidélité des ressemblances que nous venons de constater excluent l’hypothèse d’une source commune, d’un νόμος τελωνικός de la Grèce propre, dont les Grecs installés en Egypte depuis cinquante ans auraient pu, soudain et à la même date, s’inspirer indépendamment les uns des autres. Au contraire, l’idée d’une imitation directe est confirmée par l’histoire.” M. Carcopino then recounts the numerous relations existing at this time between the Sicilians and the Egyptians; and, after proving that the law of Ptolemy was anterior to the *lex Hieronica*, he concludes that the second is an imitation of the first. But from the similarity of the two laws, it is just as possible to induce a common origin for the two as a direct imitation of the one by the other, and the historical argument is not conclusive in favor of either hypothesis since the Sicilians were in as close relations with the Greeks as with the Egyptians, and certainly the Greek influence in Sicily was stronger than the Egyptian. Even supposing that there was a direct influence of the law of Ptolemy on that of Hiero, this does not at all exclude the other hypothesis. While making use of the original model was it not possible to adopt certain happy and recent modifications? M. Carcopino leaves this question unanswered.

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**La Table Hypothécaire de Veleia: Étude sur la Propriété Foncière dans l’Apennin de Plaisance.** Par F. G. DE PACHTERE. Paris: Librairie Ancienne Honoré Champion, 1920. (Bibliothèque de l’École des Hautes Études, 228). xx + 120 pp.

DE PACHTERE has succeeded in extracting a remarkable amount of valuable information from the famous Veleian inscription. In the first two chapters he shows that Mommsen’s conclusions (Hermes, xix, 363 ff.) were partly incorrect, partly inadequate. By tracing with unusual acumen the limits of many of the *pagi* mentioned in the inscription he demonstrates that the districts named are largely mountainous and that it is chiefly in the infertile and rocky regions, not in the lowlands, that small holdings gave way to latifundia. In the fertile regions, the small plots survived more successfully than Mommsen supposed.

A careful examination of the names of the original plots and of the possessors of Trajan's day shows that the earlier owners in the mountains were largely Ligurians and Celts and that these were replaced to a considerable extent by Latin immigrants (Veleia was not a colony) and by freedmen bearing Greek and Oriental names. In fact some of the wealthiest landlords of Trajan's day prove to have been of this latter class. Persicus, for instance, had accumulated a plantation of what once made up twenty-five different plots.

In chapter VII *DE PACHTERE* proves that after 102 A. D. the emperor's commissioners allowed to owners 8.05% of the value of estates in rural credits. By establishing this fact he is able to make a dozen simple and convincing emendations of the numerals on the stone: e. g. in item IV he changes L to V; in item V he writes L for I, etc. He then shows that the credits were assigned on the basis of the estimated values of the whole estate in each case, and that the separate values of parcels of estates, which often give a different sum-total, have nothing to do with the assignment of credits. Such values are merely records of the last previous selling-price and are retained on the document to serve as a basis for future estimates of liabilities to the state in case the parcels should again change hands.

These are only a few of the many discoveries that *DE PACHTERE* has made. The essay is one of the keenest studies that we have recently had in the domain of Roman history and will probably be the final word on most of the questions raised by the Veleian inscriptions. The young author, who had he lived would undoubtedly have become a leader in historical research, fell at the head of his troops on the Salonica front in September, 1916.

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Un Correspondant de Cicéron: Ap. Claudius Pulcher. Par L. A. CONSTANS. Paris: E. de Boccard, 1921. Pp. vi + 138.

Appius Claudius, the father-in-law of Brutus, was a very ordinary Roman patrician who reached the consulship (54 B. C.) and censorship solely by virtue of his ancestry. We should have little knowledge of him had he not crossed Cicero's path. As a brother of the infamous Clodius he had several opportunities to do Cicero harm, and as Cicero's predecessor in the governorship of Cilicia he caused mischief to the provincials that Cicero had to repair. It is probable that M. CONSTANS